Theodore Albert Peyser

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

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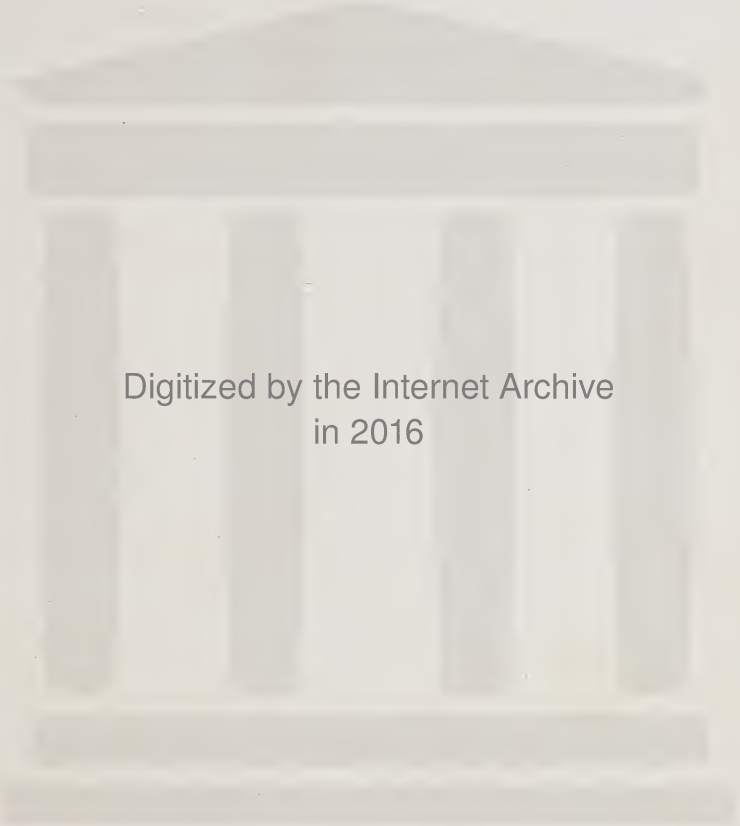
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH
REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Theodore Albert Peyser

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NEW YORK

Seventy-fifth Congress
Third Session

UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON : 1938

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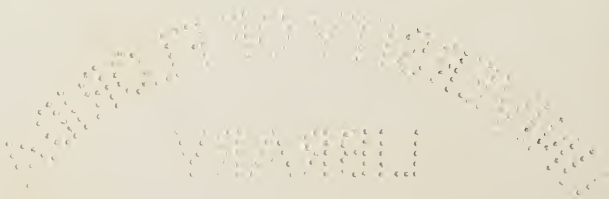

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To the U.S. government Department

Biography

THEODORE ALBERT PEYSER was born in Charleston, W. Va., February 18, 1873; attended the public schools; engaged in various occupations until 1893, when he moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, and was employed as a traveling salesman, 1893–1900; moved to New York City, N. Y., in 1900 and engaged in the life-insurance business; elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, and Seventy-fifth Congresses, and served from March 4, 1933, until his death in New York City, N. Y., August 8, 1937; interment in the United Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio.

In the House of Representatives

THURSDAY, *March 17, 1938.*

Mr. JARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of House Resolution 445, which I send to the desk and ask to have read.

The Clerk read as follows:

House Resolution 445

Resolved, That on Wednesday, April 20, 1938, immediately after the approval of the Journal, the House shall stand at recess for the purpose of holding the memorial services as arranged by the Committee on Memorials, under the provisions of clause 40–A of rule XI. The order of exercises and proceedings of the service shall be printed in the Congressional Record, and all Members shall have leave to extend their remarks in the Congressional Record until the last issue of the Record of the third session of the Seventy-fifth Congress on the life, character, and public service of the deceased Members. At the conclusion of the proceedings the Speaker shall call the House to order, and then, as a further mark of respect to the memories of the deceased, he shall declare the House adjourned.

* * * * *

The resolution was agreed to.

Memorial Services
in the
House of Representatives

Seventy-fifth Congress
Third Session

Memorial Service Program

Prelude, Sacred Selections (11:30 to 12)
United States Army Band Orchestra

Presiding Officer——The Speaker of the House of Representatives

Invocation——The Chaplain, Dr. James Shera Montgomery

Crossing the Bar——W. L. Thickstun
Interstate Male Chorus

Scripture Reading and Prayer——The Chaplain

Roll of Deceased Members—The Clerk of the House of Representatives

Devotional Silence

Address——Hon. CHARLES A. PLUMLEY
Representative from the State of Vermont

The Lamp in the West——Horatio Parker
Interstate Male Chorus

Address——Hon. FRITZ G. LANHAM
Representative from the State of Texas

Cornet Solo—Nearer My God to Thee——Ralph K. Ostrom
Master Sergeant, United States Army Band Orchestra

Benediction——The Chaplain

Theodore Albert Peyser

Memorial Services

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1938.

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives presided.

The Chaplain, Dr. Montgomery:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Interstate Male Chorus sang "Crossing the Bar," by W. L. Thickstun.

The Chaplain, Dr. Montgomery:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23.)

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past and as a watch

in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep; in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up, in the evening it is cut down and withereth. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. (Psalm 90.)

There is one glory of the sun and another glory of the moon and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. But when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.

Almighty and most merciful God, our Father, from whom our spirits come and to whom they shall return, grant unto all sorrowing hearts the consolation of Thy grace. Strengthen, we beseech Thee, the faith of all bereaved ones, that they may contemplate with peace the blessedness of that eternal home which Thou hast prepared for all whom Thou hast redeemed. Grant that all others whose joy is turned into mourning may not murmur nor faint under their afflictions; but cleaving more closely unto Thee, O blessed Lord and Saviour, who art the resurrection and the life, may be led by Thy Holy Spirit through all the trials of this uncertain life, till the day break and the shadows flee away. Amen.

Still, still with Thee, when purple morning breaketh,
When the bird waketh and the shadows flee;
Fairer than morning, holier than daylight
Dawns the sweet consciousness, I am with Thee.

So shall it be at last, in that bright morning,
When the soul waketh and life's shadows flee;
Oh, in that hour fairer than daylight dawning,
Shall rise the glorious thought, I am with Thee.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ROLL OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Mr. A. E. Chaffee, reading clerk of the House, read the following roll:

JOSEPH TAYLOR ROBINSON, Senator from the State of Arkansas: Lawyer; member of the General Assembly of Arkansas, 1895; Presidential elector, 1900; Member of the House of Representatives Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth, Sixty-first, and Sixty-second Congresses; Governor of Arkansas, 1913; elected to the United States Senate January 1913; reelected in 1918, 1924, 1930, and 1936; chairman of the minority conference, 1923–33, and chairman of the majority conference, 1933–37. Died July 14, 1937.

PHILIP ARNOLD GOODWIN, Twenty-seventh Congressional District of New York: Businessman; engaged in steel bridge building, 1902–16; director and president of the National Bank of Coxsackie; vice president of the Coxsackie Milling & Supply Co.; trustee, Heermance Memorial Library; Member of the Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, and Seventy-fifth Congresses. Died June 6, 1937.

WILLIAM PATRICK CONNERY, Jr., Seventh Congressional District of Massachusetts: Actor, theatrical manager, soldier, lawyer; served 19 months in France in all major operations of the Twenty-sixth (Yankee) Division; promoted from private to regimental color sergeant for meritorious service; Member of the Sixty-eighth and each succeeding Congress; chairman of the Committee on Labor. Died June 15, 1937.

THEODORE ALBERT PEYSER, Seventeenth Congressional District of New York: Businessman; special agent of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.; collector of etchings; member of the Jefferson Island Club and Wild Goose Club at Harmony, Maine; elected to the Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, and Seventy-fifth Congresses; member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Died August 8, 1937.

ROBERT POTTER HILL, Fifth Congressional District of Oklahoma: Lawyer, educator, police magistrate of Marion, Ill., 1903; city attorney of Marion, 1908–10; member of the Illinois State House of Representatives, 1910–12; Member of the Sixty-third Congress from Illinois; assistant county attorney, Oklahoma County; district judge of Oklahoma; Member of the Seventy-fifth Congress from Oklahoma. Died October 29, 1937.

EDWARD ALOYSIUS KENNEY, Ninth Congressional District of New Jersey: Lawyer; admitted to the bar of the State of New York in 1908, and to the bar of the State of New Jersey in 1917; member

of Legal Advisory Draft Board in 1917; judge of recorder's court of Cliffside Park, 1919–23; Member of the Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, and Seventy-fifth Congresses. Died January 27, 1938.

Mrs. NORTON, a Representative from the State of New Jersey, standing in front of the Speaker's rostrum, placed a memorial rose in a vase as the name of each deceased Member was read by the Clerk.

Then followed 1 minute of devotional silence.

Hon. CHARLES A. PLUMLEY, a Representative from the State of Vermont, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS OF HON. CHARLES A. PLUMLEY

Mr. Speaker, we have met once more according to our reverent custom in order to note the passing of the year and properly to observe the absence of those colleagues and friends of ours departed.

This memorial day is in some respects the most significant and important of our calendar, with its solemn and tender associations. Solemn, for it bids us pause and measure each for himself the duty he owes to a common country; tender, since it opens the floodgates of memory to a tide of emotions and recollections which bring before us again in form and in voice those colleagues of ours who "short days ago lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, loved, and were loved."

I see a hand you cannot see!
I hear a voice you cannot hear.

They have gone, but, as the poet has said:

Whatever comes must go—and so the rose
That for a little trembles on its stalk,
Dying, will cast its petals in a shower
Upon the garden walk.

There is no permanence: Impatient time
So swiftly shifts the curtains of life's show,
It will not long possess us, ill or good—
Whatever comes, must go.

And so today those of us who are still standing on this "narrow isthmus twixt two boundless seas"; the past, the future; two eternities, are living again those happy days of

friendship, association, and fellowship, in the land of yesterday of memory, a paradise out of which fate cannot drive us.

Oh memories that bless and burn,
  Oh barren gain and bitter loss;
I kiss each bead and strive at last to learn
  To kiss the cross.

Those colleagues of ours. Once more we seem to see them and to hear them trying to make some nook of God's creation a little more fruitful, better, more worthy of God; endeavoring to make some human hearts a little wiser, more mindful, happier, more blessed, less accursed; striving to widen the intellectual horizon of the people, helping to lay the foundation of a better individual life, showing them new goals for endeavor; inspiring them with more varied and higher ideals—

To strive, to seek, to find
And not to yield.

The good which these friends of ours did and tried to do will never die, whether it be recognized or unrecognized as such, for it lives and will live and work through endless ages, since no truth or goodness realized by man ever dies or can die.

Perchance beyond the veil unreal there lies
  Somewhere fulfillment we now court in vain;
Perchance beyond this haggard life that dies
  Dwells that for which our spent ideals strain.

There is no heroic poem in the world but in reality is a biography of a man. There is no life of a man faithfully recorded but is in itself a heroic poem, rhymed or unrhymed. All that history and biography and experience teach is summed up in the fact that no great freedom has ever been established by spontaneous growth, nor has it ever been self-sustaining or self-protecting. Liberties are rare plants demanding eternal vigilance and continuous defense. No great expansion or extension of human opportunity has ever come to pass by accident. Somewhere, sometime, somehow, some man has paid the price.

This is the inexorable and unchanging law. The advance of truth across the world has been marked by little circles of blackened earth, where yesterday the martyr stood.

America stands before the world as the highest and almost the only representative of a political system which gives each individual a common share of authority and responsibility of government. It necessarily follows that the collective wealth and intelligence of our people are but agencies to conserve the rights, the principles, the liberties, and the essential dignity of man as man. The work of patriots is never finished. The theory of our citizenship is larger today than yesterday, and the inalienable right of the common citizen to life, liberty, and happiness has changed our declaration of rights into a declaration of obligation, and made it necessary for each one of us to bear the burden of the responsibility of the liberties which we enjoy.

As George William Curtis said of friends of his, so I say of those colleagues of ours, "To them the welfare of their country was dearer and meant more than any mere partisan political victory. This patriotism is scorned by some as an impracticable theory, as a dream of a cloister, and even by some as the whim of the fool." But such was the folly of the Spartan Leonidas, staying with his 300, the Persian horde, and teaching Greece the self-reliance that saved her. Such was the folly of the Swiss Arnold von Winkelried, gathering into his own breast the host of Austrian spears, making his dead body the bridge of victory for his countrymen. Such was the folly of the American Nathan Hale, gladly risking the seeming disgrace of his name, and grieving that he had but one life to give for his country. Such are the beacon lights of a pure patriotism that burn forever in men's memories and answer each other through the illuminated ages. This is the spirit of a patriotism that girds the commonwealth with the resistless splendor of the moral law—"the invulnerable panoply of States, the celestial secret of a great Nation and a happy people."

America has made her progress through and by the necessity and the agitation of man for equal opportunity and for individual expression, by the urgency in man for liberty to grow, by the necessity for man that political conditions should respond more nearly to the urging of man's inner and spiritual nature.

This day forcefully reminds us that heroism is not confined to the tented field and that courage is not required exclusively for war and death. Not every great cause leads to battle and to death and only a few are called upon to die for their country, while all of us are called upon to live for it. To die nobly is heroic, but to live nobly is magnificent. These colleagues of ours taught us how to live as well as how to die. They played the game until it was called on account of darkness. As someone has well said:

We play with life—a game that ends in losing
And yet still must be played, though cards are stacked.
What matter if the deal is not our choosing?
What matter if we play with bodies racked
By pain or filled with joy? The game is such
We gamble till death shows the winning hand.
Yes; truly we must trust God overmuch
To play a game we do not understand.
It might be that the game is never ended,
Though death may win from life, there still may be
A power beyond time, uncomprehended,
That does not fear to fight for such as we.
To futures that forever will endure
This life and death may be the overture.

These colleagues of ours were all strong, able men who exemplified the finest traditions of America's equality of opportunity not one of whom ever thought of himself as a great man. My friends, nothing is more simple than greatness, for to be simple is to be great.

That man is great, and he alone
Who serves a greatness not his own
For neither price, nor pelf;
Content to know and to be unknown,
Whole in himself.

We are more than ever this day impressed by our conclusion that the welfare of our country depends upon such men as they were; upon the courage and the spirit and the understanding with which we, each one of us, meet and discharge, as they did, the ever recurring, homely, undramatic duties of everyday life.

How well we know that just in proportion as each citizen, as the average man, may meet and discharge his patriotic duty and make the necessary sacrifices required of every unselfish loyal American citizen, to just this extent can the stability, the permanency, and the character of our institutions be assured.

Throughout the pages of history the force of dynamic personalities is projected beyond the workaday sphere of ordinary mortals. Their thoughts and their actions, because of the fact that their viewpoint is accompanied by a contagious sense of honesty, justice, and truth, live after them for succeeding generations to emulate and apply. The lives of such men as these colleagues and friends of ours, and their efforts, and what they sought to accomplish, or effected, in political, social, and economic institutions, make history.

They, each and every one of them, would be the last to admit it, much less to boast of the fact; nevertheless it is true that they inherently possessed those qualities of character which made them great in spite of themselves; qualities which at any time and all times in any person have won, and always will win, a positive and indestructible claim to a place among the select nobility of mankind.

We must still serve if we would save, still sacrifice if we would preserve; to get is not all or much; to give is the nobler part. License is not liberty, for anarchy knows no true liberty. Freedom is blessed only when held in reasonable restraint, and to obey the law, not to avoid or evade it, is the duty of all.

It also follows, therefore, that the rule of service and sacrifice, animating and controlling all hearts, shaping all

actions, declaring alike the duty and ability of all, is the only sure safeguard of our American institutions, as it is also the secure and sustaining bulwark of this Republic.

As I listened just now to the roll call and no familiar voice responded, and there was no answer, I was reminded that from the date of his death on June 27, 1800, at Oberhausen, Bavaria, until 1814 the name of Latour d'Auvergne was retained on the roll of his company of grenadiers, as a mark of honor. At each and every roll call when d'Auvergne's name was reached, the color sergeant answered: "Dead on the field of honor."

So do we answer for those friends of ours.

As the poet would have it—

> We met like ships upon the sea
> Who hold an hour's converse so short, so sweet!
> Oh, little hours! and then away they speed
> On lonely paths through mist and cloud and foam
> To meet no more.

To meet no more? Ah, there is the rub!

If immortality—

As Senator Ingalls said—

> be a splendid but delusive dream, if the incompleteness of their human career, e'en the longest and most fortunate, be not perfected and supplemented after its termination here, then he who fears to die should dread to live, for life would be a tragedy more desolate and inexplicable than death.

The old, old fashion—death—with its perpetual, persistent, and ever-recurring challenge, "If a man die, shall he live again?"

From remote antiquity men have tried to find an answer to that question. Scientists and philosophers, Sophists, and logicians have pointed intellectual telescopes toward the inscrutable fastnesses of futurity, only to be thwarted and set at naught by that blank wall which separates the seen from the unseen, the fathomed from the unfathomable.

Strange, is it not, that with the inevitability of death always before them, men find it possible, under ordinary

circumstances, to draw the curtains of their minds against it? Yet there are moments in the life of almost every man when "sad images of the shroud, and pall, and breathless darkness, and the narrow house" cause him "to shudder and grow sick at heart." And, however they may be formulated, these thoughts inevitably resolve themselves at last into Job's poignant question.

That question has been answered. But the answer did not come from the scientists or the philosophers, the Sophists or the logicians. It came from a Man in far-off Palestine nineteen hundred years ago, and He framed it in these simple but dynamic words:

Because I live ye shall live also.

So today we say with Dickens:

The golden ripple on the wall came back again, and nothing else stirred in the room. The old, old fashion! The fashion that came in with our first garments and will last unchanged until our race has run its course and the wide firmament is rolled up like a scroll. The old, old fashion—death! Oh, thank God, all who see it, for that older fashion yet—of immortality!

The Interstate Male Chorus sang "The Lamp in the West," by Horatio Parker.

Hon. FRITZ G. LANHAM, a Representative from the State of Texas, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS OF HON. FRITZ G. LANHAM

Mr. Speaker, out of the past and into the future come and go the children of men. In their brief sojourn on earth they learn of that past through history, of that future through revelation. Only in that present of their three score years and ten may they exemplify actively to their fellow men their bountiful heritage from the past, their blissful hope for the future.

Today we pause to meditate upon the lives of friends and colleagues who have completed but recently that interim between two great eternities. The records of service they have left, the confidence in their ability and integrity their associations here have established, the affectionate regard their

worth as true Americans has invited and received now warm our hearts and will endear them to us forever. The memory of their loyalty to our institutions and our ideals will remain as an inspiration and a benediction.

With narrowed vision we are prone to regard such an occasion as this as one of sorrow and gloom. It is not so. The work of these colleagues is not finished; their course has not been run. No man lives here to see the perfection of his work; that is what eternity is for. It is not for us to write finis to their helpful accomplishment. It is for us, rather, to remember and appreciate their faithful service and to cherish the confident hope that even the cordial relations we have enjoyed with them are in recess, not in adjournment.

To this encouraging and uplifting contemplation I would direct our thought, that to us and to those assembled loved ones who suffer most the pangs of temporary parting may come the solace of an assuring comfort that must be real.

Long before revelation came to teach the doctrine of the resurrection, peoples of all races desired and believed in the continuity of life. Orientals cherished the firm conviction of the transmigration of souls. The ancient Greeks dreamed of a blissful Elysium, the Indians of the happy hunting grounds. In the tombs of antiquity, food and raiment and the adornments and implements of happy and useful living were interred with the departed. To this belief in immortality the redskin sacrificed the steed of the fallen warrior, and the Arab the camel. Reason seemed the herald of revelation. The heavens had declared the glory of One Omnipotent, the firmament had shown His handiwork, and from the beginning could creep in no skepticism of that Supreme Existence that decreed the orderly courses of worlds and the orderly processes of nature.

And reason taught another thing to stimulate that innate hope. In goodness, and in goodness only, is there true supremacy. In evil there is depravity. Even to the ancients it seemed unthinkable that man, the highest order of divine creation, in attributes akin in miniature to the Almighty,

could have been fashioned as an amusing pastime. It was rational to assume that he came as an expression of love and care and providence, with a purpose in his making, attesting the goodness of that One Supreme who would satisfy the craving of his soul to live and not to die. Even the low order of the vegetable kingdom, with its contributions of beauty and sustenance, taught the doctrine of its continuing existence. To the grain of wheat came death before it emerged into more luxuriant life. The heat of the sun, stored for thousands of years in the bosom of the earth, came back in coal to spread that warmth anew. All Nature died and lived again. Was man destined for a humbler heritage? Was there for him no glorious resurrection? Reason rebelled at the contemplation of such flippant mockery.

Through the ages, learning ever and more forcefully the dependence upon a beneficent Providence, there came to man the startling discovery that, despite his powers, he himself could create nothing. What has man created? Let us suppose, for example, that he created this magnificent and artistic edifice in which we assemble; but he did not. Every item of material for its construction was furnished him in advance. He did no more than change its position and its form. And its art is but an imitation, exemplified and surpassed in countless natural wonders since the world began. The One Supreme is the materialman and the artist in this and every other structure, however poorly we may copy the pattern of the Infinite.

Has man created a mighty power plant at Niagara Falls or at Muscle Shoals? Oh, no. He has but harnessed a part of the power placed there by the Almighty and diverted to his temporal needs its natural force. In the roaring cataract may be found both the motive and the means of the human accomplishment.

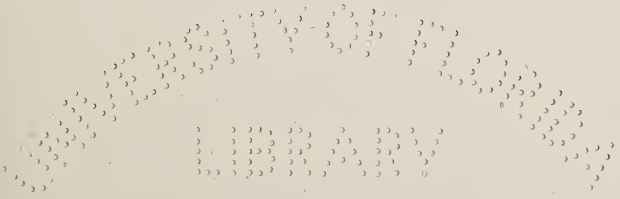
But what of the outstanding achievements of physicists and chemists in their laboratories of research? Research—the very word connotes the lack of man's creative genius.

At the root of every flower is a chemical laboratory so perfect that man cannot approximate it. In his every effort he relies, perforce, upon things already made and upon natural laws already enacted. There is no field in which some brave Columbus can discover an America which is not already there.

And man has observed another thing—what has been created he cannot destroy. He may resolve matter into its constituent elements, but the elements remain to perform the functions of their creation. Again he can but change the form and position of the things he uses. Against the works of the Almighty the iconoclast labors in vain.

Was man, then, made to be destroyed? Was it for this inglorious end Omnipotence designed the highest order of creation? Is the thought compatible with the purpose of One Supreme in goodness and in wisdom? Reason replied to those queries. It was a matter of common observation that the things of earth do not attain their full usefulness until they have reached a certain maturity. Fruit is eaten when ripe. It is when the sapling becomes a tree that its timbers make a dwelling and a thousand articles of domestic and social progress. And so, the ages have asked, is man to come to the development of his manifold powers, to cultivate the mind and spirit to the greatest possibility of service, only to be cast aside as useless rubbish? Is the image of God the one thing God Himself would destroy?

So it is not strange or surprising that early peoples found in the light of reason a firm basis for their belief that this innate longing for life was predicated upon a logical hope which would ripen into the fulfillment of their most cherished wish. It would have staggered their credulity had one predicted with confidence the telephone, the radio, the airplane, the X-ray, but their abiding faith in this inspiring doctrine of immortality could not be shattered or repressed. Even to their worthy fellow men who had departed to that unknown realm they accorded such enduring earthly remembrance as their restricted powers permitted. Sleeping or



waking, they still dreamed of them as living and laboring at their customary tasks. Their tombs were kept with scrupulous care, their memories honored, their wisdom preserved, that such a one as Socrates might live on to teach that everything implies its opposite—that the foul implies the fair, the cold implies the heat, the darkness implies the light, to sleep implies to awaken, to die implies to live again—that in fond recollection they might continue to hear him say, "Wherefore, O Judges, be of good cheer about death, and know this of a truth—that no evil can happen to a good man, either in life or after death."

It is our good fortune to live in a time when reason has been confirmed and reinforced by revelation. In its light the vague and hazy notions of the past become the clear and well-defined knowledge of the present. It has given a new and imperishable foundation for the truth which the groping reason of man had always sought. It has illumined this earthly existence with a new radiance. It has added inspiration to the effort to build and develop our minds and hearts and characters for life unending. It has manifested a purpose in our making which keeps us pressing onward toward the goal of our perfection. Work has a new meaning, worth a new significance. We are citizens of eternity, unfettered by the limitations of time.

Our departed colleagues have left examples we may emulate. They labored in the light of this enduring assurance. The memory of their worth and work accentuates the promise and the hope which lead us to the heights of our best selves.

When the Pilgrim Fathers embarked to find a home in this new land they took in the bow of their boat the bulbs and seeds and shrubs and plants which after the long voyage would be useful in the home of their quest. In the voyage on life's great sea we, too, like the loved ones who have left us, may take with us those fruits of mind and heart and spirit which will be of service over there.

And so, in the firm conviction of this faith, and in keeping with reason and with revelation, to each of these, our beloved comrades, we may join with family and friends in saying:

Good-bye, good friend;
In God's good time,
In God's good clime,
We'll meet again.
And in that land
Where we shall know
No pain or woe,
We'll understand.

A cornet solo, "Nearer My God to Thee," was played by Ralph K. Ostrom, master sergeant, United States Army Band Orchestra.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., pronounced the benediction:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Memorial Addresses
on
Theodore Albert Peyser

Memorial Addresses

Remarks by Representative Mead

Of New York

Mr. MEAD. Mr. Speaker, this House is saddened by the death of our friend and colleague, THEODORE A. PEYSER, of New York. Here was a man who rose from humble surroundings to a distinctive place in American life and government. While he served with us only 4 years, he won the esteem and admiration of all of us.

THEODORE PEYSER was born in Charleston, W. Va., and was reared midst modest conditions that approached poverty. In fact, he was forced to leave school at the age of 11 and go to work because of the straitened circumstances of his family. In his boyhood years, he sold newspapers, ran errands, and swept floors. An ambitious, industrious young man, he became a traveling salesman at 20. At each occupation to which he put his efforts, he succeeded by virtue of hard work and concentrated energy. In 1900 he moved to New York City and entered the life-insurance field, and from that day on his future was an assured success. He progressed to the heights of that business and is credited with having sold million-dollar policies to 33 clients.

While Mr. Peyser took little active interest in politics prior to the Roosevelt campaign in 1932, for years he concerned himself with the welfare of his less fortunate fellow men. He recalled his own youthful struggle for economic security and his humanitarian impulses made themselves felt throughout his service in private and public affairs.

As a member of this body, THEODORE PEYSER performed outstanding service on the Committees on Military Affairs and Interstate and Foreign Commerce. His name could

always be identified as a friend of labor groups although his reputation was that of an independent thinker and legislator.

Interested in sports, art, and fraternal affairs, he was a popular, pleasant, personable man. Sometimes described as "bald, bland, and a bachelor of genial personality," his life was a well-rounded achievement.

When we consider his rise from an unpromising youthful environment to the representation in Congress of the oft-referred-to "silk stocking" district of the great metropolis of New York City, we realize that he was a typical American who grasped each opportunity provided under our democratic social system, as he climbed the ladder of success. He worked hard all his life, he achieved much by way of material rewards, and he made a wholesome contribution to his country. A multitude of friends in every walk of life have sustained a grievous loss with his departure. As a colleague and as a friend, I will miss him.

Remarks by Representative Beiter

Of New York

Mr. BEITER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to the memory of my late colleague and good friend, THEODORE A. PEYSER, whose untimely death occurred on August 8, 1937.

Mr. PEYSER was born in Charleston, W. Va., in 1873 and resided there until 1900, when he came to New York to enter the insurance business. His introduction to politics came early in life when he was appointed to serve as a page boy in the West Virginia State Legislature at the age of 11. In 1932 he was elected to Congress from the Seventeenth District of New York, commonly known as the silk-stocking district, and was reelected to the Seventy-fourth and Seventy-fifth Congresses. During his short period of service he showed at all times a great interest in the affairs of the Nation, and the Wagner-Peyser Act, which set up a Nation-wide system of Federal-State employment bureaus, is the most noteworthy measure which he sponsored.

At the time of his death he was a member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and until his illness took a keen interest in the business before the committee.

My association with Mr. PEYSER here in Congress, although all too brief, was long enough to convince me of his splendid character and his value to the State of New York. He was a most able lawmaker and evidenced at all times an exceptional devotion to duty. He was a man of high principles and ideals and enjoyed by his conduct the respect and confidence of his colleagues.

We all mourn the untimely passing of THEODORE A. PEYSER and extend to his family our heartfelt sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Barton

Of New York

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, THEODORE A. PEYSER entered the field of practical politics almost at the close of his life. Yet in those few years when he served as the Representative of the Seventeenth District of New York he won the same respect and affection from his colleagues in the political world he had long enjoyed in the realm of business.

He brought to his public service the complete devotion, the fine intelligence, and the untiring zeal that had always characterized his activities. Every important piece of legislation was thoroughly studied; his votes were the reflection of independent judgment and sound convictions. Loyal to his political party, he was never a blind follower of any dogma, political or otherwise.

In legislation his name is permanently associated with the Wagner-Peyser bill, which provided for the establishment of a national employment system. It stands a memorial to his public zeal and social idealism.

Men were drawn to him by the charm of his personality and his genuine spirit of camaraderie. No boundaries of race, creed, or color limited the broad area of his friendships. It was "TEDDY" PEYSER the man, the human being, and friend whom his constituency delighted to honor.

In his passing the legislative branch of our Government has lost a beloved Member. He might have prolonged his life had he followed his doctor's orders to let down; but it was his nature to give his best, to do completely whatever he had undertaken. His death was, in this sense, a martyrdom to his ideal of public service. Friendly, capable, always sincere, he was a real American. Sound in judgment, patriotic in all that he thought or did, he lived a full, rich life and left behind him a multitude of friends.

Remarks by Representative Sabath

Of Illinois

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, after the eloquent and merited tributes that have been paid to the memory of the late Representative PEYSER in this House, by those who knew him well, it is not for me to add anything new to that which has been said, and well said.

Mr. PEYSER was a gentleman with whom nobody could come in contact without feeling better for the meeting and having a more kindly disposition toward his fellow men and the world at large.

Everybody, high or low, intimate or distant, who met him, felt the influence of his good will, of his earnest desire to accord to each one the courtesy and recognition of his right as a member of society to which he was entitled. Any painful feeling that he had to cause by what duty required him to say was as painful to him as it was to the person to whom he felt called upon in this way to speak.

He never exaggerated his own importance. He deprecated the personal equation. He was not accessible to all company, apparently recognizing that solitude is as needful for the imagination as society is wholesome for the character. He never bored his auditors with a diet of egotism. He was, as the great and good only are, in his simplicity, sublime. I have known a good many of the great and near great of our era, and, without exception, their simplicity has been in proportion to their greatness. The little men, in contrast, have been pompous and trying and jealous of their prerogatives in proportion to their littleness.

Mr. PEYSER was sound in doctrine, able in its application and interpretation. He saw and accurately evaluated the joys, the aspirations, the heartaches, the pulsing anxieties,

and the tears of his fellow men. He did not live in the seclusion of ivory towers but in a real world of men and women.

When our good friend came here at the beginning of the Seventy-third Congress, he had, as I remember, no legislative experience; but, by intensive application, powers of accurate discernment, and a charming personality, he soon rose to leadership in party councils and to be a very useful member of the important major Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Mr. PEYSER'S contributions here were not in the form of prolix and pedantic speeches. His modest nature did not allow such. He preferred to exercise his ability and influence in committee. While his first thought was for the congressional district he ably represented here, yet he did not lose sight of the fact that measures he supported or opposed would affect all the people of his beloved America. In other words, ultimately, the welfare of all America was his consuming passion. His character was built upon massive lines; justice was the line, and righteousness the plummet of his life. He never forgot the eternal principles of right and wrong; and he served without tinge or taint of demagogy.

Those of us who observed our departed friend during the months immediately preceding his death knew from observation only that he would not be with us long. He uttered no complaint; he fulfilled his duties to the end. In the days left to him he did not waste his strength in windy opposition or factious controversy. He shrank from jealous drums, strident klaxons, envious tom-toms, satisfied to let his worth and work be his memoirs.

Mr. PEYSER has passed beyond the reach of human help or harm; but, disenthralled of flesh and risen in the unobstructed sphere where passion never comes, he begins his illimitable work. His life is now grafted upon the infinite, and will be fruitful as no earthly life can be. Let us with profit open our hearts and minds to such influences and teachings as emanate from the life and death which we today memorialize.

Remarks by Representative Carter

Of California

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, during his three terms as a Member of the House of Representatives THEODORE A. PEYSER demonstrated not only a capacity for efficient and consistent labors in behalf of his constituents in the city but also a grasp of national problems which resulted in his coauthorship of one of the most important pieces of legislation to be enacted by the Congress in this generation.

The Wagner-Peyser Act is a recognition that unemployment is no longer a local problem, but is one which permeates our whole economy. Our late colleague was able, because of his intensive study of the causes of unemployment and its effect on the national welfare, to join with the junior Senator from his State in devising a national program which has been one of the most useful weapons in the endeavor to find jobs for those who are able and willing to work.

The Unemployment Service is a monument to the memory of THEODORE PEYSER. It is fitting that his monument is not an inanimate thing of stone and mortar, but a robust, live organization providing a practical and everyday service to hundreds of thousands of men and women who depend on it for securing the work which enables them to earn their bread and butter. Into every corner of the Nation the Unemployment Service's activities extend, a lifeline not only to the completely destitute, but a stanch friend of all workmen who through no fault of their own become the victims of unavoidable changes in the operations of business.

For generations to come working men and women will have cause to bless the name of the truly great gentleman from New York.

Remarks by Representative Merritt

Of New York

Mr. MERRITT. Mr. Speaker, one of the finest features of service in this House is the opportunity it affords for its friendships and acquaintances. The character of the people of our country is reflected in the men they have chosen to represent them here in this legislative body of the Nation.

The entire life of THEODORE A. PEYSER was one devoted to the welfare and service of his fellow men. At no time did he allow his personal interest to supersede his broad human interest.

Mr. PEYSER was zealously devoted to the interest of the people in his district. He was zealous in behalf of his State, and his sense of loyalty to the National Government was deep-seated. He gave much of his time and attention to measures before Congress that directly affected the development and welfare of his section of our State. He never wavered in his efforts to advance these measures.

We who knew him can with profit cherish his memory as a true and kind friend, as a useful and faithful colleague, and as a worthy servant of this Republic.

Remarks by Representative Cullen

Of New York

Mr. CULLEN. Mr. Speaker, in the death of the Honorable THEODORE PEYSER, late Representative in Congress from the Seventeenth Congressional District of New York, this House lost one of its beloved Members.

His devotion to duty, fidelity of purpose, and integrity won him the unstinted admiration of his colleagues on both sides of the House.

It was my privilege to know TEDDY PEYSER as a real friend. I shall ever hold in pleasant memory his beautiful character, his human sympathy, and his deep devotion to those who were near and dear to him.

Regardless of the many duties imposed upon him, he never shirked any responsibility and was honest and steadfast in his determination to serve his country, State, and his congressional district. His useful and faithful life is over. He rests from his labors. His record here is an honor to himself and to his family and many friends.

Remarks by Representative Keogh

Of New York

Mr. KEOGH. Mr. Speaker, commenting on the character and public service of a colleague fills one with mixed emotions—sorrow for the passing of that colleague and gratitude for the opportunity publicly to appraise him.

The passing of THEODORE A. PEYSER came as a distinct blow to his colleagues in the House, and especially those from New York. We learned to know him as one who quietly, but ever so effectively, devoted his time and talents to the preservation of his country. He was respected and loved as one ever fair to his people and the principles for which he stood. He has set a standard for those who follow him, and the memory of our service with him will be an inspiration.

He was a loyal and devoted servant to his State and country and his beliefs will be noted in the pages of its history.

Remarks by Representative Celler

Of New York

Mr. CELLER. Mr. Speaker, in the few years that were allotted to our late colleague, THEODORE A. PEYSER, to serve as a Representative of the Seventeenth District of New York, he displayed that breadth of wisdom, that fine intelligence, and untiring zeal that always characterized his every mode of activity in his business and private life. In Congress, his work as a legislator gave clear evidence of his independent judgment and sound convictions which he proclaimed with courage and vigor. He was always kindly, courageous, and considerate; yet, at the same time, he was always firm and resolute. Of him it may be truly said that he possessed that rare spirit which God seems to bestow on the few to benefit the many.

Our dear friend, THEODORE A. PEYSER, has left us but his memory will be enshrined in our hearts forever.

Remarks by Representative Rayburn

Of Texas

Mr. RAYBURN. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks, I cannot let the opportunity pass of saying a word with reference to my devoted friend, THEODORE A. PEYSER, of New York.

Mr. PEYSER not only served his district and his State, but was profoundly interested in the affairs of the Nation. The Wagner-Peyser Act, creating a national employment system, and which bears his name as coauthor, will stand as a monument to his memory.

During two of his three terms in Congress, THEODORE PEYSER and I were both members of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, where I found him honest, industrious, and capable. I shall miss always his good humor, his fine friendship, and his outstanding character.

It can truly be said that one of the greatest rewards for public service here is the personal attachments we form, the affection we have one for the other, and the fact that in our esteem and admiration there is no party line of separation.

Although death may come and take away from our midst a colleague and fellow laborer, blessed is the thought that still in our hearts there survives in cherished memory the love, the esteem, the fellowship, and the admiration which our fellowship, our service, and our work here begot in our friendships.

In the passing of such a man this body has lost one of its most useful and honored Members, his district has been deprived of an energetic champion of its people, and the country itself will be long in finding a man to match him in patriotism and devotion to its welfare.

Remarks by Representative Citron

Of Connecticut

Mr. CITRON. Mr. Speaker, there are moments in the busy life of mortals when we pause and pay respect to those who have departed from our midst.

The colleagues of THEODORE A. PEYSER, his friends and acquaintances, note with regret his untimely passing, which was a genuine loss to us, to the people of his district, and to the country.

He was an honorable businessman, an esteemed legislator, and an acknowledged scholar. He was deeply sincere and his energy for work knew no bounds. I learned to know him very well in Congress, and his friendly assistance and advice to those of us who were more recent Members was often sought and always appreciated.

THEODORE PEYSER'S friends were legion. We revere his memory and honor his name.

The dead are like the stars, by day
Withdrawn from mortal eye,
But not extinct, they hold their way
In glory through the sky.

Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

Proceedings in the House

MONDAY, *August 9, 1937.*

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

In our prayer, merciful Father, we desire to be consciously grateful for Thy daily blessings. We pray for that inward peace that can sustain us in our labors and conflicts with our difficult tasks. Keep our tongues free from severity, and may we be generous in deed and considerate in manner. If clouds cluster about our star of hope, we entreat Thee to arm us with self-restraint and rare wisdom. We pray that we may be alive to every national movement, to every murmur of sympathy, and to every cause of dissent. Again, gracious Lord, our hearts vibrate to the promptings of human sorrow. An honorable Member responds not to his name; his seat is vacant; he will meet with us no more. Heavenly Father, be with the family circle and comfort them with Thy ministry of peace and reconciliation. At the close of this day may we suffer no chills of neglected duty. In our Saviour's name. Amen.

Mr. CULLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound regret and sincere sympathy that I rise in my place today to announce to the House that the messenger of death has again visited us and taken from our midst Representative THEODORE A. PEYSER, of the Seventeenth Congressional District of New York. Representative PEYSER came to the Seventy-third Congress, was reelected to the Seventy-fourth Congress, and reelected to the Seventy-fifth Congress. He was a genial personality. He was a lovable character, a man of ability, understanding, and atmosphere. He considered his membership in this House a great responsibility.

He served with distinction and ability on the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, a prominent and highly important committee of this House. When the New York delegation was called upon to select a man to serve on that committee, we thought seriously about whom we would place on that important committee, and it is an important committee, because it has to deal with the business interests of this country. I, in the responsible position that I hold with the New York delegation, was very careful as to whom I would recommend to the Committee on Ways and Means for that assignment. I realized, too, that it was an assignment that required skill, that required ability, that required common sense, and also that required that kind of a brain that would understand thoroughly the legislative problems that would come before the committee. He never faltered in his actions on the committee. He served under the distinguished chairman, Mr. SAM RAYBURN, now our distinguished floor leader, and again he served under the gentleman from California [Mr. LEA].

It is too bad, Mr. Speaker, to lose men of this type, because they are needed. They are needed at times to balance off the kind of problems that are brought before us when men have to decide very carefully what they should do in regard to the enactment of laws.

When PEYSER became a member of that committee he came to me and said, among other things, calling me by my first name, "Tom, you will never have to apologize for my actions on that committee." I congratulated him and said, "I know that, Teddy," because he was Teddy to me. I said, "I know that you realize your responsibility. I know that you are careful. I know you have been graduated from the business world of New York, and I am satisfied you will acquit yourself in a manner not only honorable to yourself, but to your Nation, to your State, to your party, and to your family." He has done so.

It is with great regret that we lose men of this kind. Sometimes, as I sit here listening to the debates, and see men in the heat of debate running rife around the Chamber, I pray to God that they will at least have some consideration for the legislation they are considering. And again, Mr. Speaker, when our dear Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, comes in here every morning and delivers those beautiful prayers, when he puts up his right hand in supplication, asking God to preserve our health, to preserve the health of our families, and to give guidance to us in our labors throughout the day, what consolation and solace comes to us all, even though the inevitable must happen. Death, of course, comes to us all. It is only a question of time. As I said a moment ago, when I look at our beloved Chaplain asking God in His infinite wisdom to protect us in the labors we have to perform, I would like to supplement, in this sacred Chamber, if you please, this simple prayer: "May the soul of THEODORE A. PEYSER and the souls of all our departed colleagues rest in peace, in the glory of life and in the kingdom of heaven. Amen."

Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution, which I send to the desk.

The Clerk read (H. Res. 302), as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. THEODORE A. PEYSER, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of four Members of the House with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provision of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER appointed the following funeral committee: Mr. Boylan of New York, Mr. Bloom, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mr. Millard.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will read the balance of the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. CULLEN. Mr. Speaker, of course I understand the rule as far as it relates to the appointment of Members of the House to attend funerals, but I most respectfully suggest to my colleagues from New York, those who can conveniently attend his funeral and act as honorary pallbearers, that they may do so.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 2 minutes p. m.) the House, pursuant to its order heretofore entered, adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, August 10, 1937, at 11 o'clock a. m.

THEODORE ALBERT PEYSER

TUESDAY, *August 10, 1937.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Frazier, its legislative clerk, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. THEODORE A. PEYSER, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative the Senate do now take a recess until 12 o'clock meridian tomorrow.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *August 9, 1937.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Megill, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. THEODORE A. PEYSER, late a Representative from the State of New York, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. McGill in the chair) laid before the Senate the resolutions of the House of Representatives (H. Res. 302), which were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. THEODORE A. PEYSER, a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of four Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provision of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. WAGNER. Mr. President, at a later time I shall, perhaps, have an opportunity to make more extended remarks about the sudden death of my very dear friend and a very distinguished Member of the House of Representatives. New York State has lost one of its most faithful servants—a man who not only rendered great public service but who was interested in all matters concerning the welfare particularly of the underprivileged. He was really one of God's noblemen, and

I wish to express my profound sorrow at his unexpected departure.

Mr. COPELAND. Mr. President, I heartily endorse everything said by my colleague [Mr. Wagner] about our late departed friend, Representative PEYSER. It so happens that he was my own Representative. I have the pleasure of living in the district he represented. I have known him for years. He possessed all the qualities that go to make a good citizen. He was kindly, philanthropic, thoughtful, intelligent, a wise and useful member of society. I mourn his death.

Mr. WAGNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolutions will be read.

The resolutions (S. Res. 172) were read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. THEODORE A. PEYSER, late a Representative from the State of New York.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators, be appointed by the Vice President to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. As the committee on the part of the Senate, the Chair appoints the two Senators from New York, Mr. Copeland and Mr. Wagner.

Mr. WAGNER. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, I move that the Senate do now take a recess until 12 o'clock meridian tomorrow.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 5 o'clock and 6 minutes p. m.) the Senate took a recess until tomorrow, Tuesday, August 10, 1937, at 12 o'clock meridian.

THURSDAY, *June 16, 1938.*

Mr. CLARK. Mr. President, the Senator from New York [Mr. Copeland] had expected to be present today, but has been detained from the Senate because of illness. He had prepared and expected to deliver brief remarks in tribute to the memory of two of his late colleagues in the House of Representatives from New York. In his absence I ask that the remarks prepared by him may be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the remarks were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

Mr. COPELAND. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to express my profound sorrow over the loss of two close friends. In the hurry and pressure of this session I have not found opportunity to unfold the feelings of my heart in the manner their memories deserve.

I speak of our lamented colleagues from New York, the Honorable Philip Arnold Goodwin and the Honorable THEODORE A. PEYSER.

Many, many times I had opportunities to confer with them in matters relative to committee work and conferences, and I formed close attachments to both men. I found them always willing, helpful, and anxious to perform their duties in the public interest as faithfully as possible.

We mourn their passing. The Congress must sustain a great loss.

It was my privilege to enjoy cherished personal relationships with these two men. Not only were they my colleagues but they were my friends.

Even though they followed opposite political faiths, they recognized the right of men to differ in political philosophy and to be friends nevertheless. For each of them I had the highest personal regard.

My friend Mr. PEYSER had no wife. For Mrs. Goodwin I always had the highest regard and admiration. I extend to her my warmest sympathy.

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